Message

From: "Shoren Brown, Trout Unlimited" ["Shoren Brown, Trout Unlimited" <sbrown@tu.org>]

Sent: 3/13/2012 3:07:24 PM

To: Cara Steiner-Riley/R10/USEPA/US@EPA
Subject: Bristol Bay in the News March 13, 2012

Attachments: see it online; Hotspot; Hotspot; Hotspot; www.SaveBristolBay.org; Click here to read more; Click here to

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Across the country, concerned Americans continue submitting their thoughts on Pebble to newspapers. In Wisconsin, Ira Gliese says, "Imagine a mine nearly the size of Lake Winnebago built at the headwaters that feed the very same lake? You would be outraged and demand action." In Michigan, two authors write: "A mine of this scale has never been constructed in such a seismically active area or sensitive fish habitat and Bristol Bay is not the place for a big experiment." And, an op-ed in the Eugene Register-Guard explains how "Protection of Alaska's fishery benefits Oregon." Russell Bassett, executive director of the Association of Northwest Steelheaders, writes: "Wild, sustainable fisheries such as Bristol Bay's must be protected. When damage is done to watersheds, it's very difficult to reverse, as evidenced by the billions of dollars spent on salmon recovery in the Pacific Northwest."

In Seattle, Brian Cole, a Save Bristol Bay supporter created a fundraiser at his local pub, with a raffle, auction and calls to action. Several blogs and publications previewed the event, including the West Seattle Herald.

An article in The Northern Miner says the Pebble proposal faces three separate and key challenges, and appears to be "swimming against the current." It adds that 27,000 pages of environmental baseline data released by Pebble aren't impressing critics. In an excerpt, Matthew Allan writes: "Opponents of the project argue the added risk to the surrounding environment would be too great, with tailing impoundments near important watersheds running several miles long and up to 740 feet high. Even if no leaks or acidic waste discharge were to occur during the project's assumed 45- to 78-year life, the integrity of the tailings walls would have to last long afterward, containing up to 10 billion tonnes of potentially sulphuric-acid-generating waste rock and water in perpetuity."

A blog on The Huffington Post asks, "So will that be wild or patented salmon," pointing out that the two greatest threats to wild salmon are genetically modified "Frankenfish," and the Pebble mine proposal. The piece points out that Pebble's dangling of about 1,000 jobs pales in comparison to the thousands of local jobs tied to the sustainable fishery — "-- jobs that could be put in jeopardy if the project is approved."

Here is an excerpt: "So, 2012, which salmon will it be for dinner: wild or patented? That depends on whether we decide if protecting one of the last wild stocks trumps the profit potential (for a selected few) that gold and copper mining presents. It also depends on whether we think allowing genetically modified fish on grocery shelves is acceptable, despite not fully understanding the health and environmental costs. Which do you prefer? We know what sounds good to us."

Lastly, the EPA has extended its deadline for nominations of peer reviewers for its draft watershed assessment of Bristol Bay, through March 16. And celebrity chef and restaurateur Marcus Samuelsson features Pebble mine on his blog.

For more information, go to www.SaveBristolBay.org

Shoren Brown Bristol Bay Campaign Director

Tim Bristol
Trout Unlimited Alaska Director

Save Bristol Bay! Fundraiser for world-class salmon fishery at Beveridge Place Pub on March 11

West Seattle Herald

Interested in helping Trout Unlimited raise funds to combat a mining corporation's plan to turn the world's most productive sockeye fishery (located in Alaska) into a hard rock mine in search of gold and copper? Click here to read more

For the love of Salmon, an Event Sunday at the Beveridge Place

Kendall Jones

WA Beer Blog

I love salmon. Baked, poached, smoked, grilled, Coho, Chinook, Sockeye, whatever. The salmon is an amazing species. It is the best known of all anadromous fish. That is, salmon are born in fresh water, spend most of their life at sea, and then return to fresh water to spawn... Click here to read more

Protection of Alaska's fishery benefits Oregon

Russell Bassett

Eugene Register-Guard

Soon it will be spring chinook season, a time when fishermen throughout Oregon begin gearing up for an annual tradition of family, sport, harvest and food. No longer do creeks in the Willamette Valley fill with salmon, but Oregonians still celebrate their return. You can see it in our art, menus, stories and the boats in our driveways. It is also a time when guides and commercial fishermen start thinking about another season in Alaska's Bristol Bay... Click here to read more

Ripple Effect

Tim Osmar and Monica Zappa

The Mining Journal

We would like to extend a big thank you to Marquette and the Upper Peninsula Sled Dog Association for hosting the U.P. 200 Sled Dog Race. Our journey was long, and it was great to spend the last week of our trip in Michigan's beautiful Upper Peninsula. You probably saw us mushing or driving by, and might have noticed No Pebble Mine or Save Bristol Bay signs... Click here to read more

Letters: Alaska mining project lesson for Wisconsin

Ira Gliese

The Oshkosh Northwestern

As the ice begins to melt and fishermen and women across Wisconsin turn their focus to the upcoming trout season, I'm reminded of the trip I made several years ago to southwest Alaska to fish on Talarik Creek near Bristol Bay... Click here to read more

27,000 page environmental study leaves Pebble critics unimpressed

Matthew Allan

The Northern Miner

Facing legal, political and regulatory challenges before the permitting process has even begun, the Hunter Dickinson Group's Northern Dynasty Minerals (NDM-T, NAK-N, NAK-X) appears to be swimming against the current at its giant Pebble copper-gold-molybdenum project in southwest Alaska... Click here to read more

So Will that be the Wild or Patented Salmon?

Peter Hanlon

Huffington Post

It looks like 2012 will be the year of two salmons: one a genetically altered "Frankenfish" currently under review by the Food and Drug Administration, and the other an inhabitant of one of the world's last great wild salmon runs, which is unfortunately situated atop a whole lot of copper and gold deposits... Click here to read more

Pebble releases baseline document: Critics say document slanted by funders

Carey Restino

The Bristol Bay Times

A 20,000-plus-page document released this month by the Pebble Limited Partnership is drawing some criticism and lots of scrutiny, while meetings are planned around Bristol Bay in coming weeks to introduce and explain some of the information presented... Click here to read more

EPA seeks experts for Pebble review

Fairbanks Daily News-Miner

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is still looking for people to act as peer reviewers of an assessment of potential effects of the proposed Pebble Mine on the Bristol Bay watershed... Click here to read more

EPA extends Bristol Bay watershed assessment peer reviewer nomination opportunity to March 16 Alaska Biz Magazine

In response to several requests, EPA is extending the public opportunity to nominate peer reviewers for the Bristol Bay watershed assessment for 7 additional days to March 16, 2012. We are not extending the comment period for a longer amount of time for the following reasons... Click here to read more

To Fish or to Mine? Saving Bristol Bay and Alaska's Fishing Industry Michael Engle

Marcus Samuelsson

Alaska is the site of an ongoing political battle, between two opposing interest groups, that will shape the state, national, and world economy for generations. Its legacy will be profound, as this economic decision will determine Alaska's course in fishing or mining... Click here to read more

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